What is claimed is:

SUB A7

1. A file management apparatus comprising:

a structure information setting section capable of arbitrarily setting structure

information that defines structure of a file name;

a data acquiring section for acquiring data to be stored as a file;

a name-generating section for acquiring, for each data acquired by said data

acquiring section, information structuring a file name, according to the structure information

that is set by the structure information setting section, to generate a file name using the

acquired information; and

a managing section for storing the data acquired by the data acquiring section, and

for managing the data using the file names generated by the name-generating section.

2. The file management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the data acquiring section acquires stored data to which a file name is given in

advance and information that is associated with the stored data; and

the name-generating section acquires, for each data acquired by said data acquiring

section, information structuring a file name from said associated information according to

the structure information that is set by the structure information setting section, to generate a
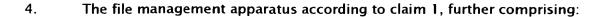
new file name using the acquired information.

3. The file management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said data acquiring section acquires microscope image data of a sample that is

photographed by an imaging device that is part of a microscope system; and

said structure information setting section can set, as said structure information, a

characteristic of the microscope image data to be reflected in a file name of said microscope

image data.

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4.   The file management apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a classifying condition setting section capable of setting arbitrarily a classifying condition to be used for classifying data stored in the managing section into a plurality of groups; and

5   a classifying section for acquiring information corresponding to said classifying condition from the file names of the data stored in said managing section, to classify data having the same said information acquired corresponding to said classifying condition into a same group, wherein

said managing section manages, data stored therein in advance, in two ways, which are managing by the file names generated by the name-generating section and managing by a result of classifying by the classifying section.

5.   The file management apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a thumbnail display section for displaying a thumbnail image that is a reduced image of an image corresponding to the data stored in said managing section; and

a displaying condition setting section for setting, as a displaying condition to be used for selecting the thumbnail image to be displayed by the thumbnail display section, information that is included in the file name corresponding to the thumbnail image to be displayed, wherein

said thumbnail display section selects the file name including the information that is 20   set as the displaying condition by the displaying condition setting section, from file names of the data stored in said managing section, and displays the thumbnail image corresponding to the selected file name.

6.   A file management apparatus comprising:

a data acquiring section for acquiring stored data to which a file name is given in 25   advance and information that is associated with the stored data;

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a structure information setting section capable of arbitrarily setting structure information that defines a structure of a virtual file name; and

a name-generating section for acquiring, for each data acquired by said data acquiring section, information structuring a virtual file name, according to the structure information that is set by the structure information setting section, to generate a virtual file name using the acquired information, wherein

said data acquired by said data acquiring section are managed by using the virtual file name generated by the name-generating section.

7.   A computer readable medium storing a file management program to control a computer, said program comprising the steps of:

setting arbitrarily structure information that defines structure of a file name;

acquiring data to be stored as a file;

acquiring, for each data acquired by said data acquiring step, information structuring a file name, according to the structure information that is set by the structure information setting step, to generate a file name using the acquired information; and

storing the data acquired by the data acquiring step, and managing the data using the file name generated by the name-generating step.

8.   The computer readable medium according to claim 7, wherein:

said data acquiring step acquires stored data to which a file name is given in advance and information that is associated with the stored data; and

said name-generating step acquires, for each data acquired by said data acquiring step, information structuring a file name, from said associated information according to the structure information that is set by the structure information setting step, to generate a new file name using the acquired information.

9.   The computer readable medium according to claim 7, wherein:

said data acquiring step acquires microscope image data of a sample that is photographed by an imaging device that is part of a microscope system; and

said structure information setting step can set, as said structure information, a characteristic of the microscope image data to be reflected in a file name of said microscope

5   image data.

10.   The computer readable medium according to claim 7, further comprising:

a classifying condition setting step capable of setting arbitrarily a classifying condition to be used for classifying data stored by the managing step into a plurality of groups; and

10   a classifying step of acquiring information corresponding to said classifying condition from the file names of the data stored by said managing step, to classify data having the same information acquired corresponding to said classifying condition into a same group, wherein

said managing step manages data stored thereby in advance, in two ways, which are

15   managing by the file names generated by the name-generating step and managing by a result of classifying by the classifying step.

11.   The computer readable medium according to claim 7, further comprising:

a thumbnail display step for displaying a thumbnail image that is a reduced image of an image corresponding to the data stored by said managing step; and

20   a displaying condition setting step for setting, as a displaying condition to be used for selecting the thumbnail image to be displayed by the thumbnail display step, information that is included in the file name corresponding to the thumbnail image to be displayed, wherein

said thumbnail display step selects file name including the information that is set as

25   the displaying condition by the displaying condition setting step, from file names of the data

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stored by said managing step, and displays the thumbnail image corresponding to the selected file name.

12. A computer readable medium storing a file management program to control a computer, said program comprising the steps of:

acquiring stored data to which a file name is given in advance and information that is associated with the stored data;

setting arbitrarily structure information that defines structure of a virtual file name; and

acquiring, for each data acquired by said data acquiring step, information structuring a virtual file name, according to the structure information that is set by the structure information setting step, to generate a virtual file name using the acquired information, wherein

said data acquired by said data acquiring step are managed by using the virtual file name generated by the name-generating step.